

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone, comprising:

a speakerphone loudspeaker for producing sounds in a local vicinity of said apparatus;

a speakerphone microphone adaptively attached to a said apparatus; and

a handset jack interface for interfacing said apparatus to a handset jack of said common telephone; and

an audio module adapted for removable interfacing to a said handset jack of a base unit of a said common telephone to adapt said common telephone for operation as a speakerphone through said speakerphone loudspeaker and said speakerphone microphone;

wherein said ~~audio module~~ apparatus is portable for transportation between common telephones and relies on said common telephone for dialing functions, ringing functions, and hook-switch functions.

2. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, further comprising:

a power supply.

3. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 2, wherein:

said power supply is adapted to include a battery.

4. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, wherein:

said apparatus is adapted to be operated in a half-duplex mode.

5. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, wherein:
said apparatus is adapted to operate in a full-duplex mode.

6. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 5, further comprising:
an audio echo canceler.

7. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 6, wherein:
said audio echo canceler is an algorithm included in a digital signal processor.

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8. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 7, wherein said digital signal processor further includes:
a hybrid echo canceler.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, wherein said audio module comprises:
a first codec for converting a signal to and from said handset jack of said base unit of said telephone between analog and digital signals;
an echo canceler; and
a second codec for converting a signal to said speakerphone loudspeaker and a signal from said speakerphone microphone into respective analog and digital signals.

10. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 9, wherein said echo canceler comprises:

an audio echo canceler.

11. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 10, wherein said echo canceler further comprises:

a hybrid echo canceler.

12. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, wherein:

said audio module is adapted and arranged for direct connection to said base unit of said telephone without use of a telephone line interface.

13. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, further comprising:

a telephone line interface.

14. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, further comprising:

a switch;

said switch having a first position which interconnects said handset to said handset jack of said telephone; and

said switch having a second position which interconnects said audio module to said handset jack of said telephone.

15. (original) The apparatus to adapt a common telephone for operation as a speakerphone according to claim 1, further comprising:

a voice pager.

16. (currently amended) A method of converting a common telephone into a speakerphone, comprising:

transporting a portable speakerphone loudspeaker and a portable speakerphone microphone to said common telephone;

removing a handset connection between a handset and a base of a telephone; and

temporarily connecting said speakerphone loudspeaker and said speakerphone microphone to said handset connection on said base to convert said common telephone into a speakerphone; and

relying on said common telephone for dialing functions, ringing functions, and hook-switch functions.

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17. (original) The method of converting a common telephone into a speakerphone according to claim 16, further comprising:

amplifying an output of said handset connection on said base.

18. (original) The method of converting a common telephone into a speakerphone according to claim 17, wherein:

said amplifying is powered by battery.

19. (currently amended) The method of converting a common telephone into a speakerphone according to claim 16, further comprising:

disconnecting said speakerphone loudspeaker and said speakerphone microphone from said handset connection on said base; and

restoring said handset connection between said handset and said base of telephone.

20. (currently amended) Apparatus for converting a common telephone into a speakerphone, comprising:

means for removing a handset connection between a handset and a base of said telephone; and

means for interfacing said apparatus to a handset jack of said common telephone;

means for temporarily connecting a speakerphone loudspeaker and a speakerphone microphone to said handset connection on said base to convert said common telephone into a speakerphone;

wherein said ~~loudspeaker and said microphone are~~ apparatus is portable for transportation between common telephones and relies on said common telephone for dialing functions, ringing functions, and hook-switch functions.

21. (original) The apparatus for converting a common telephone into a speakerphone according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for amplifying an output of said handset connection on said base.

22. (original) The apparatus for converting a common telephone into a speakerphone according to claim 21, wherein:

said means for amplifying is powered by battery.

23. (currently amended) The apparatus for converting a common telephone into a speakerphone according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for disconnecting said speakerphone loudspeaker and said speakerphone microphone from said handset connection on said base; and

means for restoring said handset connection between said handset and said base of said telephone.

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24. (currently amended) A voice pager speakerphone ~~communication device~~, comprising:

~~a voice pager including~~ a speakerphone speaker adaptively attached to said voice pager speakerphone;

a speakerphone microphone adaptively attached to said voice pager speakerphone;

an external handset cord adapter; and

an audio echo canceler adapted for operation when said communication device is connected to a telephone through said external handset cord adapter;

said ~~communication device~~ voice pager speakerphone having a voice paging mode of operation and a speakerphone mode of operation adapting said telephone for operation as a speakerphone through said speakerphone speaker and said speakerphone microphone.

25. (currently amended) The voice pager speakerphone ~~communication device~~ according to claim 24, wherein:

said voice pager speakerphone including said speakerphone speaker is adapted for operation when said communication device is in said voice paging mode of operation; and

said speakerphone microphone, said audio echo canceler, and said speakerphone speaker of said voice pager speakerphone are adapted for operation when said communication device is in said speakerphone mode of operation.